

Let us never forget this sensation. Let us use the tragedy of September 11, 2001 to make this a stronger nation, a nation that cannot be crippled by a zealous few. Let us use the tragedy of September 11, 2001 to make this a safe and freer world, not only for the children of the United States, but the children throughout the world. Freedom is a right entitled to all.

Let us never forget those who passed away on September 11, 2001.

Let us pray for the children who lost their parents, the parents who lost their children, and everyone who suffered a loss on that horrific day.

But also, on this commemorative day, let us not forget to pray for the safe return of our troops overseas. Though we may not all agree with the politics behind this past war, we can all agree that America's sons and daughters are overseas fighting with passion to protect our freedom. Let us not forget to include them in our prayers.

We must pray for continued peace and security in this nation and in all nations.

On behalf of the people of the Inland Empire of California, I offer my emotional and spiritual support to those whose lives were changed forever two years ago today.

And I would like to take a moment to mention the names of the three constituents I lost on that day. Cora Holland, mother of three and grandmother who died aboard American Airlines flight 11; Rhonda Rasmussen, who died at the Pentagon; and Navy Yeoman Second Class Melissa Rose Barnes, who died at the Pentagon.

HONORING CYNDY SIMMS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to recognize a dedicated educator from my district. Over the last two decades, Cyndy Simms has provided Steamboat Springs, Colorado with exemplary service as the school district's Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent over the last two decades. As Cyndy's career now takes her to Washington State, I am proud to honor the determination and legacy that she leaves with Steamboat's school system.

Cyndy accepted the school district Assistant Superintendent position shortly after arriving in Steamboat Springs in 1983. She revolutionized many aspects of the Steamboat Springs School District in that position as well as in her subsequent service as Superintendent. With her consensus model of decision-making, Cyndy forged a relationship between the school district and the community which remains strong today. The school district has come a long way under Cyndy's stewardship. Cyndy cherished her position as Superintendent and the opportunity it gave her to impact so many students' lives.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand before this body of Congress today to express my admiration for Cyndy Simms and her service and devotion to the students of Steamboat. Individuals like Cyndy personify the dedication and commitment necessary to impart strong values

to future generations and allow them the opportunity to succeed. Thank you, Cyndy, for your dedication and selfless public service. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO RE-AUTHORIZE THE NEW JERSEY COASTAL HERITAGE TRAIL ROUTE

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail incorporates the very best of what the great State of New Jersey has to offer the rest of the Nation. Established by Congress in 1988, the Trail unifies New Jersey's many scenic points of interest. These points of interest include a wealth of environmental, historic, maritime and recreational sights found along New Jersey's coastline, stretching 300 miles from Perth Amboy to the north, Cape May in the extreme southern tip of the State and Deepwater to the west.

The Trail's area includes three National Wildlife Refuges, four tributaries of a Wild and Scenic River system, a Civil War fort and National cemetery, several lighthouses, historic homes, and other sites tied to southern New Jersey's maritime history. Through a network of themes and destinations, the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail connects people with places of historic, recreational, environmental and maritime interest.

One exciting aspect of the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route is its focus on maritime history. There is a rich story to be told about the industries once sustained by the Delaware Bay, such as whaling, shipbuilding, oystering and crabbing. While we often define our Nation's history through military or political milestones, the Trail will serve to remind visitors that maritime-dependent commerce was a major factor in the growth of the United States.

"Eco-tourism" along the Coastal Heritage Trail has proven to be a huge success. There is an abundant variety of natural habitats and species to be found on the Trail. Whale and dolphin watching have become extremely popular, and bird lovers from throughout the country, and in fact around the world, are realizing what Southern New Jersey residents have known all along: our region is unmatched for observing migratory birds, ospreys and bald eagles.

Today, I am introducing legislation to reauthorize the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route. This legislation would extend the authorization of the Trail to provide an additional \$4 million over 5 years to continue the work began in 1988. It would also initiate a Strategic Plan which would explore opportunities to increase participation by national and local private and public interests, as well as organizational options for sustaining the Trail.

The New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail has helped New Jersey residents develop pride, awareness, experience with, and understanding of our coastal resources and its history. This reauthorization will allow the Trail to continue and flourish.

I urge my colleagues in the House to support this legislation.

HONORING CECIL TACKETT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to a true American hero and dedicated father from my district, Cecil Tackett of Pagosa Springs, Colorado. An active member of the Colorado community, Cecil was recently selected as this year's Marshal of the "Our American Heroes" Fourth of July parade. I would like to join the Pagosa Springs Rotary Club and the local community in honoring Cecil's service and recognizing this distinct honor.

Cecil was an obvious choice as Marshal of the parade, as he gallantly served to protect the freedoms we enjoy today. Cecil joined the Army Air Corps before the attack on Pearl Harbor and earned his pilot's wings as a Second Lieutenant. In 1944, Cecil was stationed on Saipan Island and was responsible for conducting bombing missions throughout Japanese territory. These missions would often last 14 to 18 hours, demanding the most from both pilot and crew. It was on one of these missions when Cecil's plane, the Pride of the Yankees, lost two engines, nearly crashing over Japan. Cecil took control and landed his aircraft and its crew safely in Saipan over eight tense hours later.

After the war, Cecil completed his degree at Kansas State University and went on to help build dams in Nebraska, Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. He moved to Pagosa Springs in 1963 and quickly became an active community member. Cecil served on the Pagosa Springs Board of Trustees, the Board of Directors at Citizens Bank, and currently serves the San Juan Water Conservancy District, helping restore the Lower Blanco River.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to bring attention to Cecil's heroic and dutiful service. Recognition for the sacrifice he made for this country is long overdue, and I am proud to bring Cecil Tackett's achievements to the attention of this body of Congress today. Thank you again Cecil, for your many years of hard work on behalf of Pagosa Springs and the State of Colorado. May you have many more to come!

TRIBUTE TO CATHERINE GLENNON AND THE ONCOLOGY NURSING SOCIETY

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to honor my constituent, Catherine Glennon, for the contributions that she has made to the field of oncology nursing. Catherine has dedicated her career to individuals with cancer and their families, and she is currently the Oncology Services Health Center Administrator at the Private Diagnostic Clinic at Duke University Medical Center.

Catherine has been a member of the Oncology Nursing Society since 1976 and recently stepped down from serving on the Board of Directors. The Oncology Nursing Society, the

largest professional oncology group in the United States, exists to promote excellence in oncology nursing and the provision of quality care to those individuals affected by cancer. As part of its mission, the Society honors and maintains nursing's historical commitment to advocacy for the public good.

Catherine Glennon has received numerous awards and recognition for her work on behalf of individuals with cancer including the Oncology Nursing Foundation Nurse Administrator/Manager Career Development Award, participation in the Center for Nursing Leadership, and recognition in Who's Who in American Nursing. She has also authored a number of studies and articles on quality cancer care and the nursing shortage that have appeared in several distinguished publications. In addition, Catherine has given numerous presentations to national audiences on a host of cancer care, health, and nursing shortage issues.

Over the last ten years, the setting where treatment for cancer is provided has changed dramatically. Oncology nurses like Catherine are the front-line providers of cancer care with responsibilities ranging from administering chemotherapy, managing patient therapies and side effects, working with insurance companies to ensure that patients receive the appropriate treatment, and providing counseling to patients and family members. Without an adequate supply of such nurses, we cannot provide quality cancer care to a growing population of people in need.

I was proud to support the passage of the "Nurse Reinvestment Act" in the 107th Congress. This important piece of legislation expanded and implemented programs at HRSA to address the multiple problems contributing to the nationwide nursing shortage, including the decline in nursing student enrollments, shortage of faculty, and dissatisfaction with nurse workplace environments.

I commend Catherine Glennon and the Oncology Nursing Society for all of their hard work to prevent and reduce suffering from cancer and to improve the lives of those 1.3 million Americans who will be diagnosed with cancer this year. I am hopeful that growing numbers of young people will follow in Catherine's footsteps and pursue a career in the rewarding and challenging profession of nursing.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL DEYERLE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I stand before this Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to a dedicated veteran and loving family man from my district. Paul Deyerle of Pueblo, Colorado died recently at the age of 86. Paul's dedication and commitment to his country have left a legacy of leadership that we would all be wise to emulate. I am proud to stand and recognize his accomplishments here today.

As a member of the Army Air Corps in World War II, Paul fought to protect the freedoms we cherish today. Paul also met his future wife Kay during his stint in the army; the couple would later marry and be blessed with three children. When Paul returned from the

war he settled in Pueblo and was a founding member of the Pueblo West Ecumenical Church. At the church, Paul's humorous, loving spirit was evident, and he would later be recognized for the community service he provided his hometown. Paul was voted Optimist of the Year in 1981, 1986, and 1992.

Mr. Speaker, I am saddened by the loss of such a kind and caring individual. The hard work and dedication that Paul has shown to Pueblo and the United States is truly remarkable. It was Paul's selflessness, reliability and positive spirit that have garnered him respect, and it is for those qualities that he has earned my respect. My thoughts and prayers go out to Paul's family and friends. He will surely be missed.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2765) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Chairman, I want to voice my vigorous opposition to the proposed legislation to implement a school voucher program in the District of Columbia.

We cannot in good conscience ask the cash-strapped schools in the District of Columbia to impose another layer of bureaucracy on its school system when positive changes are now underway to improve the quality of public education for the most needy of students. Already, the District is showing improvement through its 15 transformation schools which were created using the lowest performing schools attended by the city's poorest students, who have made significant gains in their Stanford 9 achievement scores. Also, the District has shown great success through its 42 charter schools which represent the largest number per capita in the nation. Instead of adding an unproven new program, scarce federal resources would be much better spent shoring up these two popular and proven education options. Why can't Members of Congress and local elected officials in the District focus on funding the programs which are working and are supported by most parents? We should not be in the business of funding risky ventures like school vouchers when public schools are being overlooked for funding. Furthermore, we should not authorize funding school vouchers here in our second home when Congress has already opposed vouchers in the rest of the country. The District of Columbia should not be used as a laboratory for an educational experiment that few if any Members would try in their home districts.

By approving the use of school vouchers here in the District, a competition will be set in motion between public and private schools fighting for the same pool of scarce federal education funding. Any new federal funding should be allocated to schools made accountable to the public—charter schools and the

District's public schools. The three-sector approach in the Senate's companion bill would avoid making private schools accountable, and the addition of funding for public schools seems to be an afterthought in order to push the voucher legislation through. This intent is quite apparent through the Senate bill's attempt to authorize private school vouchers for five years while making only a one-time appropriation to public schools.

Given that the Government Accounting Office (GAO) conducted a study which indicated no difference in achievement levels between students attending public schools and those using vouchers to attend private schools, we would be seriously remiss in allowing vouchers to prevail.

If we care about changing the quality of the District's public schools to truly benefit all children, we must continue to support public schools with all available resources.

TRIBUTE TO FRED SIPE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to Fred Sipe of La Junta, Colorado. Fred recently retired from Otero Junior College where he taught art, drafting, and computer aided design. As Fred prepares for retirement, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize his many years of hard work and dedication to Otero Junior College.

When Fred arrived at Otero Junior College in 1992, he fell in love with the town and the campus. He quickly began work as an art teacher. Through eleven years at the school, Fred has taught almost every art class the college has to offer. However, Fred did not restrict himself to the classroom; he was known to attend almost every extracurricular event he could. He was considered a regular at art shows, concerts, and athletic events, usually accompanied by his wife Joan.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this Congress and this nation to recognize the accomplishments of Fred Sipe. His hard work and dedication provided students with the ability to learn about art in new, creative ways. Teaching our nation's youth is truly a noble calling, and Fred's 11 years of service are truly a remarkable accomplishment. Thank you, Fred, for the service you have provided our community. I wish you all the best in your retirement.

RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE, NOT CONGRESSIONAL PAY

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to voice my opposition to the pay increase that Members of Congress voted to grant themselves during the debate on the Treasury and Transportation spending bill.